

## Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

### Meeting Minutes

11/17/2025 7:00pm

Parish Center Third Floor Conference Room 1

#### PPC Members Present

Fr. Jerry Boland X	Mike Crowe X	Matt Kline X	Danielle Schuh X
Chad Barney X	Kevin Dougherty	Margaret Pasquesi X	Tracey Zabriskie X
Kim Bredemann X	Tom Huffman X	Laura Roche X	
Brian Callahan X	Marilyn Jansen X	Cindy Rourke X	
Sara Carsten X	Elisa Kline X	Kevin Ryan	

**PPC Mission:** OLPH is a family of believers in Christ who strive to live according to His teachings. We take as our mission in the world the living out of the Gospel of Jesus.

Opening Prayer ( Laura Roche )

Approval of October Minutes (Danielle Schuh) Approved

#### Archdiocese Pastoral Council Vicariate 1 Synodal Process (Mary Jo Kunzmann )

Mary Jo is a representative of the APC for Vicariate 1. She is a parishioner from St. Franics de Sales parish in Lake Zurich. She initiated her discussion by providing ways to consider/define "synodality". One way to consider what synodality is in terms of the example of the disciples who encountered Jesus on the road to Emmaus, being together with the Lord and listening to His word. Another way is via the expression of "differentiated co - responsibility" – which is when both the lay and the clergy work together in the mission of the Church; that we are all one, through Baptism, participating in His mission.

The APC meets 6 times a year and it has 50+ volunteers. Cardinal Cupich provides an update at each meeting. He had a very active presence, he is an active listener, and he is very accountable. Example: he frequently follows up with volunteers after the meeting on specific topics raised.

Mary Jo also mentioned a council that is borne out of the APC, the Women's Council. It is a body that raises awareness to the voice of women via regular meetings or events, and it provides real advice to seminarians to give them insight into what it is like to be a woman in our Church.

Mary Jo concluded by discussing what makes us a vibrant parish and provided examples of Parish Pastoral Council guides to assist parishes in PPC formation.

## **OLPH United Debrief ( Kevin Dougherty & Team )**

OLPH United was held on 11/1/2025, so the team took an opportunity to discuss how it went and to provide feedback. The event was a success for its program (featured speaker Luke Lato, parish updates from Fr. Boland, and a fireside chat with Fr. Boland and Luke, hosted by parishioner Sandy McBreen. The event's execution was well done. Takeaways included these general topics:

1. We had 100 attendees, which is the event's general average. The number of attendees suggest our marketing efforts did not adequately reach the broader parishioners. Marketing efforts should be adjusted in the future to attract guests that generally do not attend (younger parishioners, etc).
2. The date of the event was challenging. It was the day after Halloween, and it also coincided with a couple other smaller parish events.
3. There is possibly still general confusion about what the event is all about. "OLPH United" – while a new branding effort – may still need some clarification. And – specifically – people need to more obviously know what the event's core purpose is.

## **Ministry Appreciation Mass/Reception (Mike Crowe )**

The event is planned for 2/7/2025. Planning will commence shortly.

## **Pastor Transition (Sara Carsten)**

Sara provided a brief recap of the parish profile she completed, with the help of others, between our last meeting and this meeting. The profile will be an integral artifact in the pastor transition process, as it will aid both its committee and all prospective pastors.

## **Pastor's Updates (Fr. Jerry Boland)**

### Capital Campaign

Priority of campaign options change with the church shootings in MN. The first outlay of campaign funds will go towards adding panic bars to all the doors of the church. The goal is to have the church locked (and unable to be entered) whenever school children are in the church. Panic bars permit doors to be locked from external access, but do not block people from leaving. The work is expected to be completed by the end of the week. Once the doors are complete, the parish will immediately begin considering and implementing specific security protocols.

OLPH has qualified for a grant from the state of \$150K to fund safety and security concerns, including video surveillance, lighting, etc.

### McDonnell Hall

On-target for completion in the first week of December. Father was planning on doing a Fireside Chat in the facility during the week.

### October Count

Every year, we record a count for every mass attendee to every mass in the entire month of October. We saw a 12% increase in attendance from October 2024.

**December PPC Meeting & Dinner (Mike Crowe)**

**Closing Prayer ( Chad Barney )**

**Meeting Minutes ( Kevin Dougherty )**

**Fellowship      Snacks - (Mike Crowe ) Beverages - (Matt Kline )**